What is claimed is:

1.   A roller drive unit for conveying an object comprising
a drive motor;
a planetary gear with an input connected to the drive motor and with a first gear output and a second gear output;
a drive roller, which is connected to the first gear output, to propel the object;
a lifting apparatus connected to the second gear output, to lift the drive roller out of a retracted resting position, in which the drive roller does not contact the object, into a raised operating position in which the drive roller can engage the object;
a first controllable brake to slow down the drive roller; and
a second controllable brake to keep the lifting apparatus in place.

2.   A roller drive unit as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the first and the second brakes are both electrically controllable.

3.   A roller drive unit as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the first brake is connected to the drive roller by way of a first braking gear in such a way as to reduce the torque acting on the first brake.

4.   A roller drive unit as claimed in Claim 3, wherein at least one of the first brake and the first braking gear is installed within the drive roller.

5.   A roller drive unit as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the second brake device is connected to the lifting apparatus by way of a second braking gear.

6.   A roller drive unit as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the lifting apparatus comprises at least one rotatable lifting cam, which raises the drive roller directly.

5   7.   A roller drive unit as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the lifting apparatus comprises at least one rotatable lifting cam, which raises the drive roller by way of a pivoted frame in which the drive roller is rotatably mounted.

10   8.   A roller drive unit as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the lifting apparatus comprises a means to lower the drive roller from the operating position into the resting position.

9.   A roller drive unit as claimed in Claim 1, wherein at 15   least one of the first and the second brakes is constructed as a switchable brake with a blocking position and a release position.